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Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 SS-15 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05
OES-07 OMB-01 AID-05 AGRE-00 HEW-04 DODE-00 IGA-02
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R 090206Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9151

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, MY
SUBJECT: CONTACTS WITH GOM ON DEMAND REDUCTION ASSISTANCE

REF: (A) STATE 185655; (B) KUALA LUMPUR 4698; (C) KUALA LUMPUR 3469

1. THE AMBASSADOR SENT EXCERPTS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S AUGUST 2 MESSAGE ON DRUG ABUSE (REFTEL A) TO SENIOR GOM OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT AND TREATMENT/ REHABILITATION. IN THE COVERING LETTERS THE AMBASSADOR INDICATED THAT HE AND DCM ROSENTHAL, WHO IS NARCOTICS COORDINATOR, ARE PREPARED TO MEET WITH THE OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS FURTHER COOPERATION IN NARCOTICS MATTERS.

2. IN RESPONSE TO THE AMBASSADOR'S LETTER, BOTH WELFARE SERVICES MINISTER DATUK AISHAH GHANI AND DEPUTY LAW MINISTER RAIS YATIM INDICATED AND INTEREST IN MEETING WITH THE DCM AFTER THE FASTING MONTH (WHICH ENDS SEPT- EMBER 15) TO DISCUSS AREAS OF EXPANDED COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY ON THE DEMAND REDUCTION SIDE. WELFARE MINISTER AISHAH'S INTEREST WAS MENTIONED BY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SOCIAL WELFARE ADNAN ABDULLAH IN A SEPTEMBER 7 MEETING WITH AN EMBASSY OFFICER. ADNAN HAD ASKED FOR
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THE MEETING TO DISCUSS USG ASSISTANCE FOR DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAMS IN HIS MINISTRY AS A FOLLOW-UP TO A GENERAL OFFER OF ASSISTANCE MADE DURING THE KUALA LUMPUR VISIT OF NIDA'S ROBERT RETKA AND ROBERT DENDY LAST APRIL.

3. ADNAN OUTLINED SEVERAL SPECIFIC PROJECTS HE HOPED THE USG COULD HELD FIND. ALL RELATE TO ALLEVIATING

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THE MANPOWER SHORTAGE THE WELFARE SERVICES MINISTRY FACES IN TRYING TO COPE WITH A RAPIDLY-GROWING HEROIN PROBLEM AND AN EVEN FASTER GROWING AWARENESS AND OFFICIAL CONCERN ABOUT DRUG ABUSE. ADNAN ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF USG FUNDING FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

(A) A THREE TO FIVE PERSON NARCOTICS REHABILITATION TRAINING TEAM (CONSISTING PERHAPS OF A PHYSICIAN, A PSYCHOLOGIST, A SOCIAL WORKER AND A TRAINING SPECIALIST) TO SPEND SIX MONTHS IN MALAYSIA CONDUCTING A SERIES OF THREE-WEEK TRAINING COURSES FOR WELFARE MINISTRY PERSONNEL IN DETECTION, DETOXIFICATION AND REHABILITATION. THESE COURSES WOULD BE CONDUCTED IN KUALA LUMPUR AND AT EACH OF THE THREE REGIONAL DRUG REHABILITATION CENTERS. TO ENSURE THAT THE COURSE CONTENT IS RELEVANT TO LOCAL CONDITIONS, AT LEAST PART OF THE TEAM WOULD COME TO MALAYSIA IN ADVANCE TO STUDY THE CURRENT REHABILITATION PROGRAM. SEVERAL MINISTRY TRAINING OFFICERS WOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE TEAM DURING THEIR STAY HERE IN ORDER TO EHZABLISH AN ON-GOING, PERMANENT TRAINING PROGRAM BASED ON THE COURSES OFFERED BY THE TRAINING TEAM.

(B) SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THREE SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICERS PER YEAR (FOR THREE YEAR) IN U.S. MA PROGRAMS IN PSYCHOLOGY. THE WELFARE MINISTRY DOES NOT NOW HAVE A SINGLE PSYCHOLOGIST, AND WANTS TO GIVE SOME OF ITS CURRENT OFFICERS FORMAL TRAINING IN ORDER TO PUT AT

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LEAST ONE PSYCHOLOGIST ON THE STAFF OF EACH OF THE REHABILITATION CENTERS (THREE CURRENT AND TWO PROJECTED). (THE PEACE CORPS HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE SEVERAL PCV PSYCHOLOGISTS, AS WELL AS COUNSELORS AND OCCUPTATIONAL THERAPISTS, THIS YEAR TO MEET THE IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF THE MINISTRY.)

(C) FINANCIAL AND/OR MANPOWER SUPPORT FOR A PILOT DAY CENTER CUM HALF-WAY HOUSE NOW EING ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF PEMADAM, THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AGAINST DRUG ABUSE, A GOM-SUPPORTED VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION FORMED LAST YEAR TO MOBILIZE POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUB ABUSE. THIS INSTITUTION WILL OPERATE UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE WELFARE MINISTRY.

4. IN ADDITION TO THESE THREE PROJECTS, ADNAN ALSO MENTIONED, IN MORE GENERAL TERMS,POSSIBLE USG FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR MALAYSIAN PARTICIPANTS IN REGIONAL NARCOTICS REHABILITATION SEMINARS AND PROGRAMS, FOR SHORT-TERM TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. AND, AT SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE, FOR THE WELFARE SERVICES MINISTRY TRAINING SCHOOL WHICH IS NOW ON THE DRAWING BOARDS.

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5. SINCE THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR NARCOTICS DEMAND REDUCTION IN COUNTRIES WHERE WE ALREADY COOPERATE IN ENFORCEMENT, THESE ARE THE FIRST CONCRETE PROPOSALS WE HAVE HAD FROM THE GOM FOR USG ASSISTANCE IN THEIR DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAMS. ADNAN WILL PREPARE DETAILED WRITTEN PROPOSALS FOR FORMAL PRESENTATION TO US LATER, BUT WANTED TO HAVE SOME IDEA OF THE SCOPE OF ASSISTANCE WE ARE PREPARED TO GIVE; THUS HE WAS NOT SHY IN HIS REQUESTS. IN ORDER TO GIVE THE GOM AND IDEA OF HOW FORTHCOMING WE ARE PREPARED TO BE, REQUEST DEPT'S GENRAL REACTION TO THE PROPOSALS OUT-LINED ABOVE. THE DCM WILL MEET WITH BOTH WELFARE MINISTER AISHAH AND DEPUTY LAW MINISTER (AND PEMADAM
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PRESIDENT), RAIS BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH, AND WE WOULD LIKE GUIDANCE BY SEPTEMBER 20.

6. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO OFFER RAIS YATIM A TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES TO OBSERVE OUR NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT AND DEMAND REDUCTION EFFORTS WHEN THE DCM MEETS HIM LATER THIS MONTH. PLEASE LET US KNOW WHETHER A DEA EXECUTIVE OBSERVATION PROGRAM IS POSSIBLE (REFS B AND C). MILLER

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